Station in Saigon Ends Coverage of Watergate

NYT 8/3/73

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Aug. 2 (AP)—The American Radio Service Vietnam has discontinued verbatim coverage of the Watergate hearings because listeners wanted to hear more music, a spokesman for the United States defense attaché's office said today.

Verbatim coverage of the hearings was cut off after the first day of testimony by H. R. Haldeman, former Presidential aide, this week. The station says it serves more than 5,000 Americans in Indochina.

The office, which runs the station, said that there had been no connection between Mr. Haldeman's testifying and the station's decision.

"There were many complaints from the audience, which felt it was not interested in hearing the verbatim testimony," the spokesman said. "They wanted to hear more music," he added, acknowledging that some complaints have been received about the cancelation.